



late book Dept.

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JOSIAH H. BENTON FUND











BEING  
A True

# RELATION

OF

The great and bloody Murder, committed by *Mary Champion* (an Anabaptist) who cut off her Childs head, being 7. weekes old, and held it to her husband to baptize. Also another great murder committed in the North, by a Scottish Commander, for which Fact he was executed.



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REFLECTION

Josiah H. Benton, Ed.  
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B L O O D Y  
N E W S  
F R O M  
K E N T

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**A** Mongst the innumerable bloody acts,  
and desperate Desigus which hath bin  
committed in this sinfull Land, the like hath  
seldome been seen or heard of, which this  
ensuing Relation hath here to unfold, being  
a most sad and much-lamented story, of the  
late bloody murder committed at DOVER,  
with

within the County of Kent ; which I shall briefly recite : But (by reason of diversity of Opinions, which are now held and maintained by too many sorts of people within this Kingdome) I shall desire to spend some few lines of former Examples, by instancing some inhumane acts, much reflecting upon this dolefull story, viz.

In the beginning of the Reign of our Royall Sovereign, King Charles, there happened neere Pontefract in Yorkshire, a great and bloody murder, upon a little Boy about foure yeares of age, committed by its own Parents,

For neer the aforesaid Town, there lived a man and his wife, who were of two severall Religions, and having a little son of some yeares of maturity, the good-man (being a Protestant) desired to have him put to Schoole, and to be brought up in the Protestant Profession : but his wife denyed the same, saying, shee would havee him brought up in the Catholike Faith, or else he should be of no Religion at all, which (indeed) fell out so : For, this bloody woman watching her opportunity, murdered the Boy; but was afterwards apprehended, and suffered death for her bloody Fact.

Divers other examples might be instanced ; but I will no longer detract time, and therefore proceed to the ensuing story, which we are now to treat upon.

At the famous town of Dover, within the County of Kent, it so fell out, that one Iohn Champian, an honest Tradesman, having married a wife from Fever-sham; and living some certain years at Dover, his place of habitation, it pleased God to send them issue, and being delivered of a Child, after some few dayes expired, her husband desired to have it Christened (according the antient Custome of the Kingdome) but she would by no meanes condescend to it, which much perplexed her husband.

But sixe or seven weekes being past and gone, this wicked minded woman took her opportunity; and on a day when her husband was abroad, took a great knife and cut off the Childs head.

And when her husband came in, she called him into a little Parlour, where the poore Infant lay bleeding, uttering these words.

Behold husband, thy sweet Babe without a head; now go and baptize it; if you will, you must christen the head without a body: for here they lye separated.

At the sight of which, her husband were astonished, saying

O thou bloody and inhumane wretch, what haste thou done.

Whereupon, some of the Neighbors hearing him immediately came in, and seeing this foul misdeed, sent for the Officers of the Towne, where shee was apprehended, and forthwith sent to prison, there to remaine untill the next Assize, where by justice she must bee tryed according to the Lawes of this Realm. Many wofull expressions are heard to proceed from her, being



ing very penitent for her unhappy Crime;  
her Conscience being much troubled, and her  
eyes sad and distracted, by beholding such  
strange Visions.

For, shee can no wayes fixe her eyes upon  
any thing, but presently (she conceives) the  
poore Babe to appear before her without a  
head.

Thus may we see, that where division and  
controverſie doth arise, sad effects will sud-  
denly follow : for no ſooner can there a  
breach appeare; but presently Sathan is ready  
to ſtop it up, by infuſing his deluding ſpi-  
rit into their hearts, for the increaſing of va-  
riance, diſcord, and contention, and when  
once it hath taken poſſeſſion, it is a hard  
matter to remove it, but ſtill lyeth open to  
the deluding ſnare of the Divil, being ready  
to Be entrapp'd upon any occaſion.

And it is apparent, that when once the foot  
is in, the whole body will endeavor to creep  
in after ; and where the leaſt claufe of re-  
proach, there will immediatly ariſe a ſtrong  
argument, for the ſinall confuting of it; even  
ſo is it now, there being one breach laid open  
to the publique view, (a great Crime I confeſſe

fesse ) yet not so great as to have a generall  
Censure, for one particular person ; for, the  
best may do amisse, and the greatest Professor  
(sometimes) that liveth, may commit high  
mildemeanours, contrary to his Profession ;  
for, is it not apparent, & probable, that there  
is knaves of all trades.



*Another Relation of the late Murder committed  
in the North , upon the Scots advance from  
Newcastle.*

**U**Pon the Scots advance from Newcastle to-  
wards their own Countrey, one of the Scots  
Officers killed a woman, for which he were ap-  
prehended, and at a Councell of Warre condem-  
ned to dye. For, so full of Power and Justice,  
are the Scottish Commanders, that they do not on-  
ly carry the Sword in one hand, but Justice like-  
wise in the other.

These

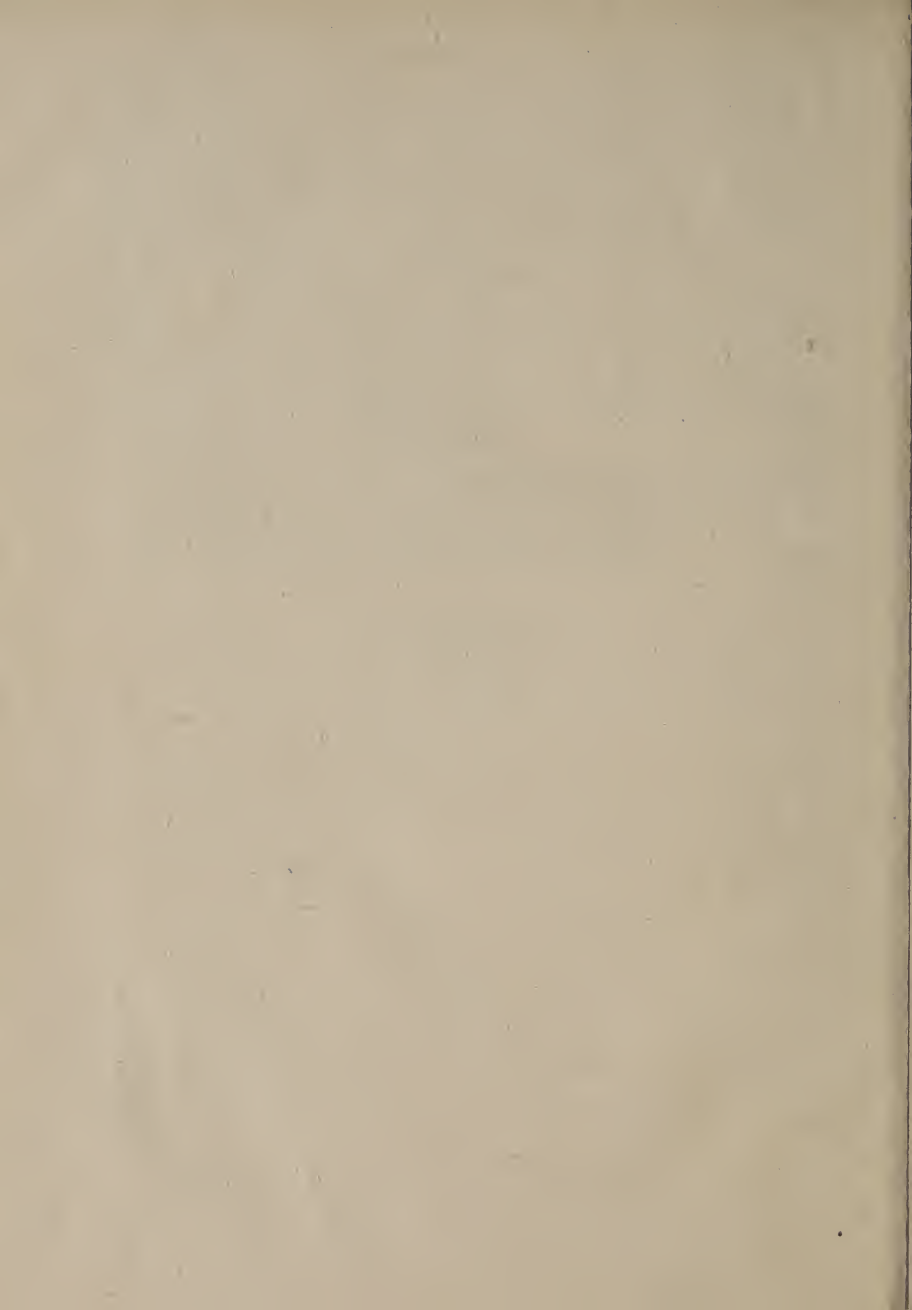


These, and such like Hereticall Actions might be a great meanes to move the honourable houses of Parliament, to proceed on in a Parliamentary way, for the putting down of all Sectaries whatsoever; and therefore thought fit to insist upon this ensuing Order, viz, Ordered, that the Ordinance for observing the Tenth Day of March next, a Day of Humiliation against spreading of Heresies and Schismes, was ordered to be carried downe into the respective Counties of this Kingdome by the Sheriffes, and that it be published by the Ministers of every Parish, within the respective Counties of this Kingdome, and Dominion of VVales in their Church or Chappels.

It was ordered that M. Hodges be desired to preach before the Commons the next Fast Day, in stead of Mr. Calamy who desired to be excused.

F I N I S.



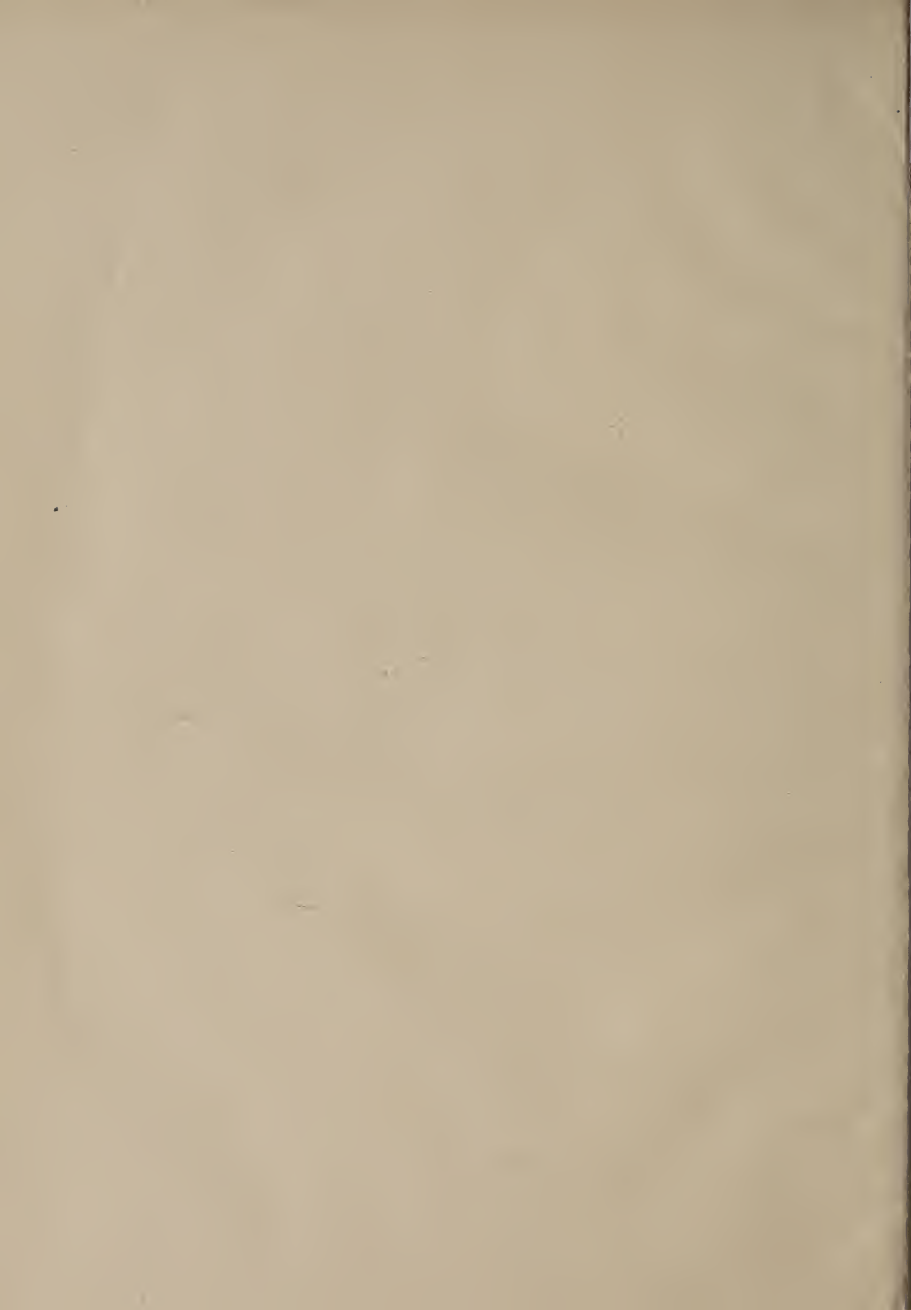












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